By the King.

A Proclamation concerning Tin and Pewter.

WHereas the Tin of this Our Kingdom hath been for many ages a Commodity of great eſtimation, and very rare in all forrain parts, and the Working and getting thereof hath been and now is the livelihood and imployment of many thouſands of Our poor Subjects, Labourers and Workmen in the ſaid Tin-Works; and being a Staple-Commodity of much honour and profit to this Realm, by the princely care of Our Royall Progenitors and Predeceſſors, hath been in all times eſpecially cheriſhed and maintained: And whereas we are informed, That a Tin Mine hath lately been diſcovered in the parts of Barbary, whereby the vent of Engliſh Tin in forrain parts (which hath formerly been made in ſome good yeerly proportion) and by that means hath advanced to Us an increaſe of profit and Revenue, is like to be much leſſened: and not onely the poor Labourers in the Tin-Works within this Our Realm hereby be deſtitute of imployment, but alſo the Pewterers of this Kingdom, who uſually make much Wrought Ware for exportation, deprived of that part of their maintenance, if ſome due and timely proviſion ſhall not be made therein: And therefore for a more generall uſe hereafter of Tin and Pewter within Our Dominions, we have thought fit, by advice of Our Private Councell, as well to reſtrain the Importation from forrain parts of all Veſſels of Tin and Pewter into any Our Kingdoms (as by an Act of Parliament it is already into Our Realm of England) as to require and enjoyn Our own Subjects (for upholding a native Commodity of ſuch Worth) to a more common and generall uſe of the ſame Within Our own Kingdoms.

And to that end, we do hereby declare Our Royall Will and pleaſure to be, and do ſtraitly charge and command, That no Merchants, Marriners, or other perſon or perſons whatſoever, do hereafter import, convey, or bring, or cauſe to be imported, conveyed, or brought from any the parts beyond the Seas, into Our Realms of England, or Ireland, and Dominion of Wales, or any of them, any Tin, Tin-Oar, or Pewter, of what kinde ſoever, either Wrought into any ſort of Veſſels, or Manufactures, or otherwiſe unwrought,

upon pain of the loſſe and forfeiture as well of the ſaid Tin, Tin-Oar, and Pewter Veſſels, or Manufactures of Tin and Pewter, ſo imported, as of the Ships wherein the ſame ſhall be ſhipped or conveyed; and upon ſuch further penalties and puniſhments as ſhall be meet for the contempt or neglect of Our Royall commandment herein.

And We do further declare Our Royall Will and pleaſure to be (and that under the pains and penalties aforeſaid) That no Maſters or owners of ſhipping belonging to any of Our Subjects, ſhall hereafter therein fraught or lade for any of Our naturall born Subjects, or for the Subjects of any other Kingdom or State, any Tin, or Tin-Oar, made or gotten, or to be made or gotten out of the ſaid Mine in Barbary, or any other forrain Mines, to tranſport the ſame from or to any parts or places whatſoever; whereby ſo much dammage may ariſe to Us and Our Subjects.

And for the better and larger vent of the Tin growing within this Our Kingdom, by a more frequent uſe thereof here, We do further declare Our Royall Will and pleaſure to be, and do ſtraitly charge and command, That from henceforth all Meaſures, of what ſorts or ſizes ſoever, wherein Wine, Beer, or Ale, or any other liquid thing whatſoever, ſhall be uſually uttered, ſold, or ſerved in by retail, either abroad or within doors, by any Keepers of Taverns, Inns, Alehouſes, Victualling houſes, Shops, or the like, within Our Realms of England, or Ireland, or Dominion of Wales, ſhall be made of Tin or Pewter, and ſhall be Stamped and Sealed according to the Laws and Statutes of this Realm provided in that behalf.

And for the better accompliſhment of Our Royall intention in the Premiſſes, We do hereby Will and require all Our Juſtices of Peace within Our ſaid Realms of England, Ireland, and Dominion of Wales, That from henceforth and from time to time hereafter, they take ſpeciall care to admit, continue, and allow ſuch perſons onely to keep common Alehouſes, or Tipling-houſes, and to uſe common ſelling of Ale or Beer, as ſhall conform themſelves to Our pleaſure herein declared, in the uſe of Pewter pots and Meaſures onely, and thoſe duly Sized and Sealed according to the Law, as they tender Our diſpleaſure, and will anſwer for the contrary at their utmoſt perils.

And laſtly, We do hereby ſtraitly charge and command, as well Our Cuſtomers, Comptrollers, Surveyours, Searchers, and other Our Officers in all Our Ports and Cuſtom-houſes, as alſo all Juſtices of Peace, Majors, Sheriffs, Bailiffs, Conſtables, and other Our Officers and Miniſters whatſoever, whom it ſhall concern, to take ſpeciall care in their ſeverall Offices and places, that Our Royall Will and pleaſure hereby declared touching the Premiſſes, be from time to time duly obſerved, as they will anſwer the contrary at their utmoſt perils.

Given at Our Court at Whitehall, the four and twentieth day of July, in the ſixteenth yeer of Our Reign.

God ſave the King.

Imprinted at London by Robert Barker, Printer to the Kings moſt excellent Majeſty: And by the Aſſignes of John Bill. 1640.